likely passenger carriage during 1997-98 as 16.02 million. However, in view of the actual carriage for the year 1996-97 and taking a growth rate of 12.5%, the actual figure is likely to come down to 13.2 million.

(b) The reasons for not achieving the cumulative targets as indicated above can be attributed to suspension of A-320 operations during the year 1989—92 leading to capacity shortage, unfavourable industrial relations during the year 1992—96 in Indian Airlines, shortage of Commanders & Co-pilots etc.

(c) The steps taken for liberalising the economy coupled with improved industrial relations in Indian Airlines and availability of additional capacity with private operators on domestic routes, is likely to help improve the figures of passenger carriage. However, the growth of aviation industry is also dependent upon the general economic growth in the country as well as on foreign tourist arrivals.

Genetically Engineered rabies vaccines to sterilize stray Dogs

530. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether genetically engineered rabies vaccines have been devised to sterilize stray dogs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to ensure human safety before use of such vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) There is no vaccine which can sterilize dogs. Genetically engineered anti-rabies vaccine for veterinary use has been developed mainly by the US scientists to prevent rabies. This vaccine has been found to be effective as an oral bait in some countries. However, the possible adverse effects on human beings and other animals cannot be ruled out.

(c) An institutional mechanism is already in place to consider bio-safety aspects of recombinant products or genetically modified microbes product before commercial use. Any proposal for field trial of such products will require prior clearance.

भरूच (गुजरात) में विमानपत्तन स्थापित करने की मांग

531. श्री अहमद पटेल: क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

क्या यह सच है कि आम जनता, व्यापारियों, उद्यमियों और जन-प्रतिनिधियों ने भरूच (गुजरात) में विमानपत्तन स्थापित करने की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार लोगों की भावना का आदर करते हुए भरूच में एक विमानपत्तन स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री सी०एम० इब्राहिम): (क) और (ख) अंकलेश्वर इण्डस्ट्रीज एसोसिएशन और गुजरात नर्मदा वैली फर्टिलाइजर्स कम्पनी से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए थे।

(ग) और (घ) जी, नहीं। बड़ोदरा विमानपत्तन पास में होने के कारण भरूच में विमानपत्तन बनाना अपेक्षित नहीं है।

Request for regular flights from Pune to Sharjah

532. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that flowers adorning homes, hotels and offices in Europe are being exported from Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Maharashtra Cooperative Flower Development Society has requested the Government to start regular flights from Pune to Sharjah, from where the bloom will be flown to Holland, the main world market for lowers; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Europe is importing flowers from all over the world and the share of India in such import is less than 1%.

(b) No such request appears to have been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Corruption Charges Against Senior Manager of S.T.C. and M.M.T.C.

*533. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Senior Managers in S.T.C. and M.M.T.C. are seriously involved in more than one CBI inquiry or cases on charges of corruption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for allowing such corrupt Managers to continue in service;

(d) whether Government have ever made inquiries into the assets of such identified corrupt managers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Status of cases covered under CBI inquiry or otherwise as intimated by STC & MMTC are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). The cases reflected in the enclosed statement are at various stages of investigation/enquiry. (*See* below).

(d) to (f) STC requested CBI in Feb., 1996 to make inquiries into the assets of a Marketing Manager involved in two CBI cases and who has been under suspension since 10.1.1996.

Statement

Details of cases of corruption against some senior Managers of STC and MMTC pending with C.B.I.

Sl. No.	Subejct	Status position
	M M T C	
1.	Assignment as Member (F), International Airport Authority of India	Director (F), MMTC was searched on 5.2.1997 by CBI. CBI registered a case on 3.2.1997 with reference to some case relating to his earlier assignment while working in International Airport Authority.
2.	Marine product Export Associate of Regional office, Madras	Three RC was registered in Feb./March, '96 against Shri V.P. Radhakrishnan CGM in respect of (i) M/s. Karthick Fisheries Pvt. Ltd. (ii) M/s. Vijay Sea Food International and (iii) M/s. Fine Food packers. CBI investigation reports have been received for (i) & (ii). No action is recommended against the Officer, who retired on 30th April, 1996.